□ 1415

MASHA'S LAW

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the heartbreaking story of a 13-year-old girl in my district and to call for tougher penalties for child pornography.

I have introduced, along with Representative TIERNEY, H.R. 4703, called Masha's law after 13-year-old Masha Allen, whose adoptive father posted pornographic images of her at age 5 on the Internet. Thankfully, law enforcement officials tracked and convicted her father. Masha now lives in Douglasville, Georgia, with a new and loving adoptive parent. However, hundreds of her images are still on the Internet; and her photographs are some of the most widely downloaded pictures in the world.

Mr. Speaker, we absolutely must do something to harshly reprimand those who produce, distribute and consume child pornography. Did you know that under current law the penalties for illegally downloading music are three times higher than the penalties for downloading child pornography? This is absurd and unjust. My legislation would increase the statutory damages for victims of child exploitation and ensure victims can sue those who download their pictures.

We must protect those who have no way of protecting themselves from this horrific and sickening crime, and I ask that you join me in supporting Masha's law.

WILLIE VAUGHN POST OFFICE

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this weekend I had the fortune to attend a funeral in a small rural town in the southeast corner of Arkansas of a gentleman who was 101 years old. But the people in that town were all excited and happy because one of our Members, Congressman Mike Ross, had named the Post Office in that town after this gentleman, Mr. Willie Vaughn, who had worked and been there almost a hundred years. I commend our colleague, Representative MIKE Ross, for making a lot of people in Southeast Arkansas very happy.

MYTH VERSUS REALITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, since the revelation of the National Security Agency's terrorist surveillance program, we have heard all sorts of hysterics from the other side of the aisle. I think now is the time to separate myth from reality.

Allegations that the NSA program is illegal are a myth. The reality is that the President's authority to authorize this program is firmly based in both his constitutional authority as Commander-in-Chief and in the authorization for use of military force which passed Congress after 9/11.

Allegations that the NSA program is a domestic eavesdropping program used to spy on innocent Americans are a myth. The reality is that this program is narrowly focused, aimed only at international calls and targeted at al Qaeda and related groups. There are safeguards in place to protect the civil liberties of Americans.

Allegations that NSA activities violate the fourth amendment are a myth. The reality is that that program is consistent with the Constitution's protections of civil liberties, including fourth amendment protections.

There are people who want you to believe this program is targeting average Americans. Nothing could be further from the truth.

ROYALTY HOLIDAY FOR MAJOR OIL COMPANIES

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, today in the New York Times Americans were told that not only had the Congress passed a royalty holiday for major oil companies but in the most recent energy bill they had expanded and extended that royal holiday. So we have the situation today where a bill, a law that was passed many, many years ago when the price of energy was very low, has been kept on the book in spite of efforts to try and repeal it by myself and others. And now with world oil prices in excess of \$60 a barrel and the oil company profits of the majors at historical record highs by all of the major oil companies, the Federal Government is going to continue to provide a royalty holiday to those oil companies that will cost us, at a minimum, over \$7 billion in the next 5 years and maybe an additional 35 to \$40 billion over that same period of time.

The time has come for Congress to stop this program, to insist upon the renegotiation of these leases; and if the oil companies will not participate in that renegotiation they should not be allowed to bid on Federal land owned by the taxpayers of this country and continue to be able to rip off the taxpayers of this country.

INTERNATIONAL STRENGTH ON IRANIAN REGIME

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the

controlled President of Iran, continues to deny the horrors of the Holocaust and encourage the elimination of Israel. As his message of hatred and fanaticism grows louder each day, the seriousness of his nuclear ambitions has become increasingly obvious.

Last week, the IAEA Board of Governors, including our allies, India, Canada and Australia, voted overwhelmingly to report Iran to the U.N. Security Council. Although the Bush Administration built a case for international unity, Iran's President persists in his quest for nuclear weapons. The U.N. must act quickly and strongly to hold Iran accountable for violating the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

During the Cold War, Ronald Reagan advocated peace through strength. As the Iranian regime continues to undermine peace and stability, leaders of free nations must work together to seriously address this grave threat. While the Iranian president, chosen by a fixed system, continues to pursue his agenda of terror, the Iranian people deserve a brighter future of economic expansion, not a warmongering leader.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

RUNAWAY SPENDING IN WASHINGTON

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the headlines announcing one scandal after another have grieved the heart of the American people and have eroded public confidence in our national government's commitment to governing of the highest moral caliber.

The Bible says that righteousness exalts a nation, so the converse must also be true. So Congress is preparing to fight for ethics reform, not because such scandals hurt our party but because they do hurt the Nation. But as we reform our rules of ethics we will do so with the understanding that these are but symptoms of the core problem. The real scandal in Washington, D.C., is runaway Federal spending.

Fiscal and moral integrity are inseparable issues. So it is not enough to change the way lobbyists spend their money, Mr. Speaker. We must change the way Congress spends the people's money. Only by marrying budget reform and ethics reform can we hope to restore the confidence of the American people in the fiscal and moral integrity of our national legislature.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives: